NP E03500.017821.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

in re A	pplication of:	·)			
KENJI AIYAMA Application No.: 10/736,530		;) ;)	Examiner: Not Yet Assigned Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned		
Filed: December 17, 2003		:)			
For:	IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS, METHOD, AND CONTROL PROGRAM	:) :)	March 15, 2004		

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u>

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed PTO-1449 form. Copies of the listed documents are enclosed, except for the listed U.S. patent documents.

An explanation of relevance of JP 10-207661 is given in the attached English abstract and on page 2 of the specification.

An explanation of relevance of JP 9-258932 is given in the attached English abstract and on pages 1-2 of the specification. Also, U.S. Patent No. 5,987,228 is in the same patent family as JP 9-258932.

The Examiner's attention also is directed to the following U.S. applications:

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	GROUP ART UNIT
09/203,513	12/01/98	2713
09/487,720	01/19/00	2624
10/017,096	12/13/01	2854

A copy of each cited application, as originally filed, is enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that the listed documents and the enclosed applications be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the PTO-1449 form be returned indicating that the listed documents have been considered.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney for Applicant Lock Set 14-JAHNES

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FORM PTO 1449 (modified)				ATTY DOCKET NO. 03500.017821. APPLICATION NO. 10/736,530				
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFI				APPLICANT KENJI AIYAMA				
				FILING DATE December 17, 2003		GROUP N/Y/A		
			E. E.	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	MAR 1 6 2004	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE	
		5,987,228	11/16/99	Nishizawa	395	114		
					<u> </u>			
					 			
<u></u>								
		T		DREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS				
·		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT	
	JP	9-258932	10/03/97	Japan			Abstract	
	JP	10-207661	08/07/98	Japan			Abstract	
·		T	OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)				
-								
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED				

Sheet_1_ of _1_

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.